

the surrogacy parents guide

the surrogacy parents guide is an essential resource for anyone considering surrogacy as a path to parenthood. This comprehensive article covers every crucial aspect of the surrogacy process, from understanding the basics and evaluating different types of surrogacy to legal, financial, and emotional considerations. Readers will gain insights into choosing the right surrogate, working with agencies and professionals, and preparing for the arrival of their child. Whether you are new to the concept or seeking in-depth knowledge, this guide will walk you through each stage, providing expert advice and up-to-date information. With a focus on the needs of intended parents, this article highlights key steps, potential challenges, and practical tips for a successful surrogacy journey. Continue reading to discover everything you need to know about starting and completing your family through surrogacy, while staying informed and empowered at every stage.

- Understanding Surrogacy: The Basics
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Understanding Surrogacy: The Basics

Surrogacy is a family-building option that involves a woman, known as the surrogate, carrying and giving birth to a child for another person or couple, referred to as the intended parents. It is an increasingly popular solution for individuals and couples facing infertility, same-sex couples, and those for whom pregnancy is medically impossible or risky. The surrogacy parents guide explores the fundamental principles of surrogacy, including how the process works, the roles of all parties involved, and the essential legal and ethical considerations. Understanding these basics is the first step in making informed decisions

and setting realistic expectations for your surrogacy journey.

Types of Surrogacy Arrangements

There are two primary types of surrogacy arrangements: traditional surrogacy and gestational surrogacy. Understanding the differences between these types is crucial for intended parents choosing the right path for their family.

Traditional Surrogacy

In traditional surrogacy, the surrogate uses her own egg, making her the biological mother of the child. Fertilization is typically achieved through artificial insemination using the intended father's sperm or donor sperm. While less common due to legal and emotional complexities, traditional surrogacy may be considered in specific situations.

Gestational Surrogacy

Gestational surrogacy is the most widely used form today. In this arrangement, the surrogate has no genetic link to the child. An embryo created using the intended parents' or donors' egg and sperm is transferred to the surrogate's uterus. This method offers clarity regarding parental rights and is generally preferred for its legal and emotional simplicity.

Legal Considerations for Surrogacy Parents

Legal aspects are a critical part of the surrogacy process. Laws governing surrogacy vary significantly between countries and even within different states or provinces. It is essential for intended parents to understand their legal rights and responsibilities before proceeding.

Surrogacy Agreements

A comprehensive surrogacy agreement outlines the roles, expectations, compensation, parental rights, and responsibilities of both parties. Legal counsel experienced in reproductive law should draft or review these contracts to ensure protection for all involved.

Parental Rights and Birth Certificates

Establishing legal parentage is a key concern. Depending on jurisdiction, intended parents may need a pre-birth or post-birth order to be recognized as the legal parents on the child's birth certificate. Some locations require adoption proceedings, while others allow direct assignment of parental rights.

International Surrogacy Laws

For those pursuing surrogacy abroad, understanding the legal landscape in both the surrogate's and the intended parents' countries is vital. International surrogacy can present challenges related to citizenship, travel, and recognition of parental rights.

Financial Planning and Costs in Surrogacy

Surrogacy involves significant financial commitment. The surrogacy parents guide recommends thorough financial planning to cover all associated expenses and avoid unexpected costs. Understanding the breakdown of surrogacy expenses helps intended parents budget effectively.

Common Surrogacy Costs

- Surrogate compensation and benefits
- Agency fees
- Legal fees
- Medical and fertility clinic expenses
- Insurance and contingency funds
- Travel and lodging (if required)

Budgeting and Financial Support

Intended parents should have a detailed financial plan, including an emergency fund for unforeseen circumstances. Some may explore loans, grants, or flexible payment options provided by agencies or clinics.

Choosing a Surrogate and Screening Process

Selecting the right surrogate is one of the most important decisions for intended parents. The surrogacy parents guide outlines the steps and criteria involved in matching with a surrogate who is physically, emotionally, and legally prepared for the process.

Surrogate Screening Criteria

- Comprehensive health and medical evaluations
- Psychological assessments
- Background checks
- Lifestyle and support system review
- Previous successful pregnancy history (often preferred)

Matching with a Surrogate

Agencies typically facilitate the matching process, considering compatibility, expectations, and communication preferences. Intended parents may also choose independent surrogacy, but this requires additional diligence and resources.

Working with Surrogacy Agencies and Professionals

Surrogacy agencies and specialized professionals play a vital role in guiding intended parents through the process. Their expertise ensures all legal, medical, and logistical aspects are managed efficiently.

Services Provided by Agencies

- Surrogate recruitment and screening
- Coordination of medical and legal procedures
- Facilitation of communication between parties
- Support throughout pregnancy and post-birth

Choosing the Right Professionals

Researching and selecting reputable agencies, fertility clinics, and legal advisors is crucial. Credentials, experience, transparency, and clear communication are key factors to consider when building your support team.

Emotional Aspects and Support for Intended Parents

The surrogacy journey can be emotionally complex for all parties involved. Intended parents may experience excitement, anxiety, or stress during different stages. Recognizing these emotions and accessing appropriate support is essential for a positive experience.

Emotional Wellbeing Strategies

- Participating in counseling or support groups
- Open communication with the surrogate
- Establishing realistic expectations
- Engaging in self-care and stress management techniques

Building Relationships

A strong, respectful relationship between intended parents and their surrogate can enhance the experience. Clear boundaries, empathy, and regular updates help build trust and mutual understanding.

Preparing for Parenthood: The Final Steps

As the surrogacy journey nears completion, intended parents should prepare for the arrival of their child. This includes finalizing legal paperwork, arranging post-birth care, and ensuring a smooth transition for everyone involved.

Hospital Planning and Birth Preparation

Coordinating with the hospital, surrogate, and professionals ensures everyone understands the birth plan and roles. Pre-arranged agreements about who will be present and how the handover will occur help prevent misunderstandings.

Welcoming Your Child

After birth, intended parents may need to complete additional legal steps to secure parental rights, especially in international arrangements. Preparing a warm, supportive environment for the child and maintaining positive communication with the surrogate can contribute to a successful start to parenthood.

Frequently Asked Questions: The Surrogacy Parents Guide

Q: What is the first step for intended parents considering surrogacy?

A: The first step is to research and understand the different types of surrogacy, legal requirements in your location, and to consult with experienced professionals such as fertility specialists and surrogacy agencies.

Q: How long does the surrogacy process typically take?

A: The surrogacy process can take anywhere from 12 to 24 months, depending on factors like finding a

suitable surrogate, legal procedures, and medical timelines.

Q: What are the main differences between traditional and gestational surrogacy?

A: In traditional surrogacy, the surrogate is genetically related to the child, using her own egg. In gestational surrogacy, the surrogate has no genetic connection, as the embryo is created using the intended parents' or donor gametes.

Q: Are there any risks associated with surrogacy for intended parents?

A: Risks can include legal complications, emotional challenges, and unforeseen medical or financial issues. Working with reputable professionals and having comprehensive agreements can minimize these risks.

Q: How are surrogates screened and selected?

A: Surrogates undergo extensive health evaluations, psychological assessments, background checks, and must typically have a history of healthy pregnancies.

Q: Can intended parents be present during the birth?

A: Yes, in most cases intended parents can be present, but this should be discussed and agreed upon in advance with the surrogate and the hospital.

Q: What costs should intended parents expect in a surrogacy journey?

A: Expected costs include surrogate compensation, agency fees, legal and medical expenses, insurance, and possible travel costs. The total can range from \$60,000 to \$150,000 or more, depending on the arrangement.

Q: How do intended parents establish legal parentage of the child?

A: Legal parentage is established through pre-birth or post-birth orders, adoption procedures, or other legal processes, which vary by jurisdiction.

Q: Is emotional support available for intended parents during surrogacy?

A: Yes, support is available through counseling, support groups, agencies, and professionals who specialize in surrogacy journeys.

Q: What happens if there are complications during the surrogacy process?

A: Comprehensive surrogacy agreements and professional guidance help address potential complications, ensuring all parties are prepared for unexpected situations and have clear steps to follow.

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The Surrogacy Parents Guide: A Comprehensive Journey

Embarking on the journey to parenthood through surrogacy is a deeply personal and often complex undertaking. This comprehensive guide serves as your roadmap, navigating the emotional, legal, and logistical aspects of building your family via gestational surrogacy. We'll demystify the process, providing clarity and support as you navigate this life-changing experience. Whether you're just beginning to explore surrogacy or already deep in the process, this guide offers invaluable information and resources to help you every step of the way.

Choosing the Right Surrogacy Path: Traditional vs. Gestational

Understanding the fundamental differences between traditional and gestational surrogacy is crucial. In traditional surrogacy, the surrogate mother is also the egg donor, meaning she's genetically related to the child. Gestational surrogacy, on the other hand, involves the surrogate carrying a baby conceived using the intended parents' eggs and sperm (or donor eggs/sperm). Gestational surrogacy is the far more common method today, offering greater legal clarity and minimizing emotional complexities.

Key Considerations When Choosing:

Genetic connection: Do you desire a genetic connection to your child?

Legal implications: Gestational surrogacy generally offers clearer parental rights.

Emotional considerations: The surrogate's emotional involvement varies significantly between the two methods.

Cost: Costs can vary depending on location and specific circumstances.

Finding a Reputable Surrogacy Agency or Attorney

Navigating the legal and ethical complexities of surrogacy requires expert guidance. A reputable agency or attorney specializing in assisted reproductive technology (ART) is invaluable. They'll handle the intricate legal paperwork, screen potential surrogates, and ensure the process complies with all relevant laws.

Key Qualities to Look for in an Agency or Attorney:

Experience and reputation: Check reviews and testimonials.

Comprehensive services: Look for agencies that offer a full range of support services.

Legal expertise: Ensure they're knowledgeable about surrogacy laws in your jurisdiction.

Transparency and communication: Open and honest communication is vital throughout the process.

The Surrogate Selection Process: A Careful Consideration

Finding the right surrogate is a critical step. The process usually involves screening potential surrogates based on medical history, psychological evaluation, and lifestyle factors. Building a strong relationship with your surrogate is essential for a positive experience.

Qualities to Consider in a Surrogate:

Medical fitness: A thorough medical evaluation is crucial.

Emotional maturity and stability: The surrogate will experience significant physical and emotional changes.

Open communication: A willingness to communicate openly and honestly is paramount.

Shared values and goals: Finding a surrogate with similar values can enhance the experience.

Legal and Financial Aspects of Surrogacy

Surrogacy involves significant legal and financial considerations. Pre-nuptial agreements, surrogacy contracts, and insurance coverage are crucial aspects to carefully plan. It is vital to have legal counsel throughout the entire process to protect all parties involved.

Key Legal and Financial Elements:

Surrogacy contract: A legally binding agreement outlining the rights and responsibilities of all parties.

Legal parentage establishment: Ensuring legal parentage is established before and after the birth.

Insurance coverage: Comprehensive insurance coverage is necessary to protect against potential complications.

Financial arrangements: Clearly defined payment schedules and contingencies.

Emotional and Psychological Preparation: The Journey Within

The surrogacy journey is emotionally demanding for intended parents. Preparing yourselves emotionally and psychologically is vital. Consider seeking counseling or support groups to navigate the complexities of the process.

Ways to Prepare Emotionally:

Couples therapy: Addressing any pre-existing relationship challenges.

Support groups: Connecting with other intended parents.

Individual therapy: Processing the emotional complexities of the process.

Self-care: Prioritizing physical and mental well-being.

Post-Birth Procedures and Ongoing Support

After the birth, the focus shifts to welcoming your child and completing the necessary legal procedures to finalize the parental rights. Ongoing support from your agency or attorney can be valuable during this transitional period.

Post-Birth Considerations:

Legal finalization: Completing the legal paperwork to establish parentage.

Welcoming your child: Preparing for the arrival of your baby.

Post-partum support for the surrogate: Ensuring the surrogate's well-being.

Ongoing support for the family: Access to resources and support as needed.

Conclusion:

Navigating the world of surrogacy can feel overwhelming, but with careful planning, professional guidance, and a strong support system, it can be a deeply rewarding experience. This guide serves as a starting point; remember to consult with legal professionals and experienced agencies throughout the process. Your journey to parenthood deserves the utmost care and consideration.

FAQs:

1. How much does surrogacy cost? The cost of surrogacy varies significantly depending on location, agency fees, medical expenses, and legal fees. It's crucial to get detailed cost estimates from your agency or attorney.
2. What are the legal requirements for surrogacy in my state/country? Surrogacy laws vary widely

across jurisdictions. It is essential to consult with an attorney specializing in reproductive law in your area to understand the specific legal requirements.

3. Can I use a family member as a surrogate? While possible, using a family member as a surrogate introduces complexities regarding legal and emotional boundaries. It is highly recommended to seek legal counsel before proceeding with this option.

4. What happens if the surrogate changes her mind? A well-drafted surrogacy contract outlines the procedures and consequences if the surrogate changes her mind. Legal counsel is crucial in these situations.

5. What kind of support is available after the baby is born? Post-birth support can include legal assistance with finalizing parental rights, emotional support for the parents, and medical care for both the baby and the surrogate. Many agencies offer ongoing support services.

the surrogacy parents guide: Successful Surrogacy Susan Fuller, 2015-10-21 Whether couples pursue surrogacy as a way to combat infertility or because of a preexisting condition (or two men seek to have a child together), surrogacy can be fraught with anxiety, concern, and fear of the unknown and it's easy to see why-how can anyone trust a virtual stranger to carry their baby for them? Couples wonder if it's awkward to watch another woman pregnant with their child. And what would possess someone to be a surrogate mother in the first place? **Successful Surrogacy: An Intended Parents' Guide to a Rewarding Relationship With Their Surrogate Mother** is the only book of its kind in the world of infertility resources. It provides intended parents a first-hand look at the gestational surrogacy process from start to finish from a surrogate mother's perspective and addresses their concerns and questions every step of the way. Written by Susan MZ Fuller, a seven-time gestational surrogate mother for six different couples, **Successful Surrogacy** is an essential resource for couples considering or currently using a surrogate mother to build their families. While it's true that surrogacy is one of life's most emotionally intense events to go through, it can also be one of the most uniquely rewarding and joyous experiences for couples and surrogates alike. **Successful Surrogacy** helps couples select a surrogate who is the best match for them and then candidly walks them through the surrogacy process from the surrogate mother's point of view, from deciding to work together through the birth of their baby and beyond. The book explains each phase of surrogacy in detail, starting with initial medical evaluations and undertaking a medicated cycle leading to the embryo transfer and elaborates on what a surrogate mother is going through physically, emotionally, and socially so intended parents can better understand and relate to their surrogate mother. The surrogate's perspective on the phases of pregnancy as well as the birth and afterward is also detailed in chronological order as the surrogacy journey unfolds. Formatted as a series of probing questions and discussion items for couples to explore together, **Successful Surrogacy** gives parents-to-be a unique guidebook for exploring their own thoughts and feelings on the various aspects of surrogacy. The book also gives a surrogate's perspective on the same topics so parents can consider the issues from both sides and if necessary, broach individual topics with their own surrogate mother, allowing them to more easily develop and strengthen their relationship with her. **Successful Surrogacy: An Intended Parents' Guide to a Rewarding Relationship With Their Surrogate Mother** is a quick yet detailed read that is designed to be a handy step-by-step resource and discussion toolkit that couples can consult throughout the phases of their own surrogate pregnancy experience. It's also a wealth of information for loved ones, friends, and family members supporting any couple embarking on the surrogacy process. You are not alone on this journey. Scroll up and get your copy today.

the surrogacy parents guide: More Than Just a Baby Sarah Jefford, 2020-07-30 The complexity of Surrogacy is arguably made even more so by the very nature of it being a decision

many families reach due to the greatest of emotional challenges. There are so many opportunities for things to go wrong, but also the greatest of happy outcomes for so many families too. As a specialist surrogacy lawyer and a surrogate in 2018, Sarah Jefford has observed many surrogacy teams both flourish and struggle, and that has led to this very important book. In order to maximise every potential for things to go well for both intended parents and surrogate mothers, we need to make informed decisions that protect the interests of everyone involved, but most importantly that are in the best interests of the children - those who are already here, and those who will be in the future. If you want to know answers to the questions of how does surrogacy work, and the surrogate mother process, then this book will be your best place to start. But keep it handy throughout the entire process so that as your journey progresses, you will be able to understand the many aspects of surrogate pregnancy, intended parents roles, and each other's vital roles in creating a family together.

the surrogacy parents guide: *Labor of Love* Heather Jacobson, 2016-03-15 While the practice of surrogacy has existed for millennia, new fertility technologies have allowed women to act as gestational surrogates, carrying children that are not genetically their own. While some women volunteer to act as gestational surrogates for friends or family members, others get paid for performing this service. The first ethnographic study of gestational surrogacy in the United States, *Labor of Love* examines the conflicted attitudes that emerge when the ostensibly priceless act of bringing a child into the world becomes a paid occupation. Heather Jacobson interviews not only surrogate mothers, but also their family members, the intended parents who employ surrogates, and the various professionals who work to facilitate the process. Seeking to understand how gestational surrogates perceive their vocation, she discovers that many regard surrogacy as a calling, but are reluctant to describe it as a job. In the process, Jacobson dissects the complex set of social attitudes underlying this resistance toward conceiving of pregnancy as a form of employment. Through her extensive field research, Jacobson gives readers a firsthand look at the many challenges faced by gestational surrogates, who deal with complicated medical procedures, delicate work-family balances, and tricky social dynamics. Yet *Labor of Love* also demonstrates the extent to which advances in reproductive technology are affecting all Americans, changing how we think about maternity, family, and the labor involved in giving birth. For more, visit <http://www.heatherjacobsononline.com/>

the surrogacy parents guide: *Pathways to Parenthood* Stacy Ziegler, 2004-11 *Pathways to Parenthood* is a how-to guide to Surrogacy. It covers Gestational Surrogacy via IVF as well as Traditional Surrogacy via Artificial Insemination. The mystery that surrounds Surrogacy is demystified and everything is broken down into layman's terms. This book will take you from deciding if Surrogacy is the right path for you, to contact with your surrogate after the delivery and everything in between. You will learn about the legal, medical, as well as the emotional aspects of choosing Surrogacy as your pathway to parenthood. You will be given the pros and cons of using an agency as well as going about it on your own.

the surrogacy parents guide: *Surrogacy Was the Way* Zara Griswold, 2006 *Surrogacy Was the Way: Twenty Intended Mothers Tell Their Stories* documents the true stories of twenty women who had children via surrogacy. Surrogacy is a complete possibility in today's day and age, but anyone considering this route to parenthood should know the pros and cons. The women featured go to surrogacy for a variety of reasons, ranging from Mayer-Rokitansky-Kuster-Hauser syndrome (MRKH) to cancer to unexplained infertility and everything in between. Some of the journeys go rather smoothly-while others are filled with one obstacle after another. Some of the women have children already and want to add to their family, while most are attempting to become moms for the first time. What they all have in common, however, is that every woman whose story is told knows what it's like to be an intended mother-the term for the mother to be if and when a baby is born. And all of the women ultimately end up having a child (or more) through surrogacy. When I first started researching surrogacy, I was fortunate to find several Online support groups. As I gave and received support to so many other women I became fascinated with the extent to which people would go to

simply have a baby. I realized that their stories-our stories-needed to be heard; thus, the idea for this book was born. For the millions of women who have been touched by infertility in some way, or know someone who has, *Surrogacy Was the Way* will open their eyes to amazing possibilities. It will show them that they do have options, and with persistence and faith, they can achieve their dreams of motherhood after all.

the surrogacy parents guide: Parent's Guide to Los Angeles, 1996 Karin Mani, 1995-09

the surrogacy parents guide: The Parents' Guide to L.A., 1995 Karin Mani, 1994-10

the surrogacy parents guide: Full Surrogacy Now Sophie Lewis, 2021-08-31 Where pregnancy is concerned, let every pregnancy be for everyone. Let us overthrow, in short, the "family" The surrogacy industry is estimated to be worth over \$1 billion a year, and many of its surrogates around the world work in terrible conditions—deception, wage-stealing and money skimming are rife; adequate medical care is horrifyingly absent; and informed consent is depressingly rare. In *Full Surrogacy Now*, Sophie Lewis brings a fresh and unique perspective to the topic. Often, we think of surrogacy as the problem, but, *Full Surrogacy Now* argues, we need more surrogacy, not less! Rather than looking at surrogacy through a legal lens, Lewis argues that the needs and protection of surrogates should be put front and center. Their relationship to the babies they gestate must be rethought, as part of a move to recognize that reproduction is productive work. Only then can we begin to break down our assumptions that children "belong" to those whose genetics they share. Taking collective responsibility for children would radically transform our notions of kinship, helping us to see that it always takes a village to make a baby.

the surrogacy parents guide: Handbook of Gestational Surrogacy E. Scott Sills, 2016-10-06 A clinical handbook on gestational surrogacy, with thorough guidance for clinicians involved in global third-party reproductive treatment.

the surrogacy parents guide: Experiencing Surrogacy Emily Dubin Field, Melissa Fleck, 2019-11 *Experiencing Surrogacy* is the true story of how a beautiful girl named Ava arrived in our world through a years-long collaboration of patience, determination, love, friendship, and professionalism between two couples, their families, and a host of professionals. The story is told, step by step, from the respective perspectives of the book's authors: Melissa, the gestational surrogate who carried and gave birth to Ava, and Emily, Ava's intended parent and mother. In telling the story, the authors provide the reader with a unique look into and candid advice about every step in the surrogacy process from the two most important sides of the surrogacy experience.--Back cover.

the surrogacy parents guide: Your Future Family Kim Bergman, 2019-05-01 From one of the world's leading authorities, a practical resource guide filled with the essential information you need to know about assisted reproduction Third-party reproduction is now easier, more accessible, and more successful than ever before, yet it is still a complex process. Before you start down this path to parenthood, there are important questions to consider such as, "How are sperm, eggs, and embryos screened?", "How do I find a donor?", or "What are the legal issues surrounding surrogacy?" Here, psychologist Kim Bergman—an expert in the field and a mother herself through assisted reproduction—provides the answers you need and more. *Your Future Family* provides a roadmap for navigating the journey of building a family through assisted reproduction. It outlines the very first steps you should take, the options available to you at each turn, and includes essential advice and tips to help set you up for success. Filled with personal anecdotes from Bergman's own life, as well as the lives of her clients, this book brings the human element of creating a family this way to life. The definitive primer on assistant reproduction, *Your Future Family* provides a foundational knowledge of the entire process, includes essential facts, as well as a list of resources to help you along the way. Kim Bergman's expertise and her open, honest approach will inspire confidence to fulfill your dreams of creating a family.

the surrogacy parents guide: *Every Parent's Guide to the Law* Deborah L. Forman, 1998 Everything you need to know about legal issues affecting parents and children from pre-birth through the child-rearing years.

the surrogacy parents guide: The Parents' Guide to Psychological First Aid Gerald P. Koocher, Annette M. La Greca, Olivia Moorehead-Slaughter, Nadja N. Lopez, 2024-04-04 A wealth of constructive advice to help you and your child navigate and recover from the everyday stresses of growing up. Just as parents can expect their children to encounter physical bumps, bruises, and injuries along the road to adulthood, emotional distress is also an unavoidable part of growing up. The sources of this distress range from toddlerhood to young adulthood, from the frustration of toilet training to the uncertainty of leaving home for the first time. Compiled by four renowned clinical psychologists, the second edition of *The Parents' Guide to Psychological First Aid* brings together an array of experts to offer parental guidance in helping your child navigate and recover from the everyday stresses they will encounter growing up. Clear, practical, and to-the-point, this is a go-to reference that parents will find themselves returning to again and again as their children grow. Chapters cover topics like healthy eating, sibling relationships, separation and divorce, social media and screen time, hate crimes and violence, learning differences, alcohol and drug use, sadness and depression, and much more. With practical tips, nonjudgmental advice, and suggestions for additional resources at the end of each chapter, this useful and thought-provoking book will be of immense value to new and seasoned parents alike.

the surrogacy parents guide: Planning Parenthood Rebecca A. Clark, Gloria Richard-Davis, Jill Hayes, 2009-06 Aims to guide prospective parents through the complicated mazes of assisted reproduction and adoption. This work describes fertility assistance, surrogacy, and adoption, clearly outlining the requirements of each strategy. It compares the medical, emotional, financial, and legal investments and risks involved with each of these options.

the surrogacy parents guide: Let's Talk About Egg Donation Marna Gatlin, Carole LieberWilkins MFT, 2019-07-15 *Let's Talk About Egg Donation* was written by, for, and about families built through egg and embryo donation. It takes the reader on a journey--from infertility diagnosis, to pregnancy, to how to talk to your child about egg donation. *Let's Talk About Egg Donation* tells true stories of real families who are parenting via egg and embryo donation. Their stories are woven throughout the book to craft an informative, easy-to-read narrative that focuses on positive language choices. This is the first book written by parents through egg donation that gives you age-appropriate scripts for how to take the scary out of talking to your kids about the special way in which they were conceived.

the surrogacy parents guide: A Matter of Trust Gail Dutton, 1997 *A MATTER OF TRUST: THE GUIDE TO GESTATIONAL SURROGACY* by Gail Dutton. (Gestational surrogacy: Surrogate mother carries the genetic child of another couple). This is the only guidebook to gestational surrogacy. Learn how couples save time, money & their sanity. * Surrogacy programs: What they offer & how to choose one; * Surrogates: Questions to ask prospective surrogates; * Medical concerns: What to expect, side-effects & embryo cryopreservation; * Expenses: Detailed fees & how to save money; * Contracts: Must-include clauses; * Laws: U. S. state surrogacy laws & laws in 12 other nations; * Goodbye: Ending the surrogacy partnership. *WHAT PEOPLE ARE SAYING: A MATTER OF TRUST* has insights & information that you won't find anywhere else. If you're thinking about building your family through gestational surrogacy. put it on your must-read list.--Shirley Zager, Director, the Organization of Parents Through Surrogacy. It's a fantastic book! I would love for everyone going through surrogacy to read this.--Cristie Montgomery, Director, Surrogate Parenting Services. ISBN: 0- 9655966-0-5. U. S. \$21.95. Internet: <http://www.clouds-publishing.com>. Available April 1997 from: Clouds Publishing, 5319 University Dr., #348, Irvine, CA 92612-2935. Phone: (714) 786-4606.

the surrogacy parents guide: The Everything Parent's Guide to Raising Your Adopted Child Corrie Lynn Player, Brette Sember, Mary C Owen, 2008-08-17 Domestic or international? Baby or older child? A child with special needs? The number of decisions you will need to make when deciding to adopt can at times seem overwhelming. *The Everything® Parent's Guide to Raising Your Adopted Child* offers all the information any potential or newly adoptive parent might need. Parenting expert and adoptive parent Corrie Lynne Player has interviewed hundreds of adoptive parents and presents a cross-section of age, ethnicity, and cultural backgrounds to help you

make the most informed decisions. This essential guidebook is packed with reassuring advice on how to handle the most common issues, including: -Questions to ask before adopting -Bonding techniques for each age group—from newborn to teenager -Adopting children with physiological or psychological special needs -Adopting outside your ethnic group -Navigating international adoptions -Fielding difficult questions about your adopted child's birth parents -Helping your adopted child cope with feelings of loss and abandonment With this book by your side, you will bond with your child for a lifetime!

the surrogacy parents guide: Laws and Policies on Surrogacy Harleen Kaur, 2021-09-27

This book is an essential guide on surrogacy, discussing various legal issues that arise in surrogacy cases. It provides a comprehensive coverage to various issues pertaining to surrogacy arrangements due to failure to meet the needs of those involved in surrogacy, be it the intended parents or the surrogate mother, with special emphasis on the most vulnerable party -- the surrogate child. In the wake of this existing imbalance, the call to reform the practice of surrogacy has also increased. The book provides a comprehensive coverage to various laws and policy regulations in existence dealing with surrogacy, and unravels the latest trends and developments happening around the world as surrogacy gains importance. The international perspectives highlight policies and practices being adopted and followed by various nations with regard to surrogacy regulation and associated parenthood rules. This book also analyses some of the significant cross-border disputes revolving around surrogacy, and explores briefly the jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights on matters of parentage and citizenship for children born of trans-national surrogacy with special reference to the prospects of a convention on international surrogacy currently being studied by The Hague Conference on Private International Law. Further, it highlights the issues and questions relating to surrogacy arrangements that are so far unresolved and unanswered and suggests measures for improvements to the existing proposed surrogacy legislation in India and need for uniform international regulation. The book is a great resource for legal practitioners, academics, students, policy-makers, infertility clinics, and charitable organizations working on this issue.

the surrogacy parents guide: Making the "Terrible" Twos Terrific John Rosemond, John K.

Rosemond, 1993-07 Rosemond guides parents through the steps of establishing an effective disciplinary style and a tried-and-true recipe for bringing out the very best in young children.

the surrogacy parents guide: *French Children Don't Throw Food* Pamela Druckerman, 2013

What British parent hasn't noticed, on visiting France, how well-behaved French children are compared to our own? Pamela Druckerman, who lives in Paris with three young children, has had years of observing her French friends and neighbours, and with wit and style, is ideally placed to teach us the basics of French parenting.

the surrogacy parents guide: *Brown Bodies, White Babies* Laura Harrison, 2016-09-20

Focuses on the practice of cross-racial gestational surrogacy, in which a woman--through in-vitro fertilization using the sperm and egg of intended parents or donors--carries a pregnancy for intended parents of a different race. Concentrating on the racial differences between parents and surrogates, Harrison is interested in how reproductive technologies intersect with race, particularly when brown bodies produce white babies. She provides an interdisciplinary analysis that includes legal cases of contested surrogacy, historical examples of surrogacy as a form of racialized reproductive labor, the role of genetics in the assisted reproduction industry, and the recent turn toward reproductive tourism. --From publisher description.

the surrogacy parents guide: Surrogacy and Embryo, Sperm, & Egg Donation: What Were You

Thinking? Theresa M. Erickson, 2010-07-29 In Surrogacy and Embryo, Sperm, & Egg Donation: What Were You Thinking?, an attorney who practices exclusively in reproductive law shares her expert guidance for those ready to create a family via third-party reproduction. Theresa Erickson, managing partner of Erickson Law, APLC, and the Founder and Chair of Conceptual Options, The Surrogacy and Egg Donation Center, educates and guides parents, surrogates, egg donors, sperm donors, and embryo donors through fertility, infertility, IVF, and third-party reproduction. Erickson includes a glossary of terms, a list of recommended reading for both parents and their children, and

legal forms while covering a multitude of relatable topics such as the: Top ten myths of third-party family building History of reproduction technologies Ways to begin the process Ethical and legal issues Questions to ask when building a family the nontraditional way Methods to select a physician and attorney Four fertility options Infertility is a global tragedy that no one should have to endure alone. This guidebook provides valuable information for anyone ready to embark on the journey of becoming parents through third-party reproduction.

the surrogacy parents guide: *Everything Conceivable* Liza Mundy, 2007-04-24 Award-winning journalist Liza Mundy captures the human narratives, as well as the science, behind the controversial, multibillion-dollar fertility industry, and examines how this huge social experiment is transforming our most basic relationships and even our destiny as a species. Skyrocketing infertility rates and dizzying technological advances are revolutionizing American families and changing the way we think about parenthood, childbirth, and life itself. Using in-depth reporting and riveting anecdotal material from doctors, families, surrogates, sperm and egg donors, infertile men and women, single and gay and lesbian parents, and children conceived through technology, Mundy explores the impact of assisted reproduction on individuals as well as the ethical issues raised and the potentially vast social consequences. The unforgettable personal stories in *Everything Conceivable* run the gamut from joyous to tragic; all of them raise questions we dare not ignore.

the surrogacy parents guide: *Our Journey* Richard Westoby, 2013-12-30 This book is a fascinating personal story that describes from start to finish the journey of a couple based in the U.K. undertaking IVF and surrogacy in the U.S. Written as their story it is also a detailed step by step guide that aims to help those starting out on the road to parenthood via surrogacy. Each chapter is a different step of that journey and it gives the reader an incredibly detailed insight into what to expect along the way. The chapters end with very practical questions and tips that the reader should be asking. This book raises pertinent questions targeted specifically for intended parents to analyse what should be done and when. In highlighting certain issues it enables those embarking on the surrogacy journey to become much more informed about the issues that will come up. Although this book is about two men creating their family in the U.S it actually looks at the thought process and decisions required around IVF and surrogacy. It has been written in a way that anyone considering surrogacy can learn more about the journey and hopefully can gain insights into what to expect. It has been written so that the chapters are virtually stand-alone; if one part is not relevant it can be skipped and the next chapter read. The aims of the book are to demystify surrogacy and to simplify the decision making involved at every step. But the real goal of this book is to help others have a single unbiased reference guide on the whole IVF and surrogacy process.

the surrogacy parents guide: *Adoption & Surrogacy in Florida* Melissa A. Tartaglia, 2011 The authoritative legal resource for potential parents, complete with PDF forms to use A concise, thorough, and detailed guide to adoption law and practice that is as equally useful to the novice as it is to the seasoned professional.--Jodi Sue Rutstein, M.S.W., Esq. More than 5,000 public and private adoptions were finalized in Florida during 2009. Based on recent trends, this number is expected to increase annually, despite the sometimes confusing legal procedures that often impede successful completion of the adoption process for families. Melissa Tartaglia, whose legal practice focuses on adoption and surrogacy, has been giving seminars on the adoption and surrogacy process for years. In this easy-to-use sourcebook, she presents the pros and cons of the wide range of adoption choices available in Florida, along with invaluable step-by-step tips on completing appropriate legal paperwork. Specific real-world examples and scenarios are explored to help explain the procedures and how best to approach potential pitfalls. Suitable for laypersons considering adoption and lawyers who need a quick, single-source reference, *Adoption and Surrogacy in Florida* is the most complete and accessible guide to navigating the state's sometimes unintuitive adoption and surrogacy legal requirements. It encompasses adoption and surrogacy processes from beginning to end: finding a child or gestational surrogate; drafting an enforceable contract; obtaining a home-study; locating the right physicians; satisfying legal requirements; and bringing an action for adoption or determination of parental status. Providing information on dozens of invaluable

resources, an explanation of applicable statutes and procedures in layman's terms, checklists, a CD containing downloadable legal forms, and detailed instructions, *Adoption and Surrogacy in Florida* is a must-own volume for any Floridians who want to start or expand their families through adoption or surrogacy—in some cases without engaging an agency or attorney. Attorney Melissa A. Tartaglia is the president of Tartaglia Law Group, a Florida firm that focuses on adoption, surrogacy, temporary guardianship, dependency, and custody issues.

the surrogacy parents guide: A Kids Book About Imagination LeVar Burton, 2023-11-03 One of the titles in the best-selling A Kids Book About series that introduces important and relevant topics. A clear explanation of what the imagination is and the opportunities that come from the use of it. What is imagination? Most of us think of it as playing pretend or what happens when we're dreaming, but imagination takes us to worlds and galaxies beyond that. Imagination helps us travel between time, space, and reality. It gives us the power to dream up the world in our own vision and encourages us to think of not just what is, but what could be. Imagination is a superpower that unlocks endless possibilities, and all by asking one simple question: What if? This is one conversation that's never too early to start, and this book was written to be an introduction to kids on the topic.

the surrogacy parents guide: Making a Baby Rachel Greener, 2021-06-22 This inclusive guide to how every family begins is an honest, cheerful tool for conversations between parents and their young ones. To make a baby you need one egg, one sperm, and one womb. But every family starts in its own special way. This book answers the Where did I come from? question no matter who the reader is and how their life began. From all different kinds of conception through pregnancy to the birth itself, this candid and cozy guide is just right for the first conversations that parents will have with their children about how babies are made.

the surrogacy parents guide: Diverse Pathways to Parenthood Damien Riggs, 2019-09-12 *Diverse Pathways to Parenthood: From Narratives to Practice* is a timely contribution to the study of reproduction and parenthood. Drawing on a wide breadth of projects, this book covers topics such as first time parents, donor conception, pregnancy loss, surrogacy, lesbian, gay and/or transgender parenting, fostering and adoption, grandparenting, and human/animal kinship. By presenting individual narratives focused on reproduction and parenthood, this book successfully translates empirical research into practical, applied outcomes that will be of use for all those working in the fields of reproduction and parenthood. Including recommendations for fertility specialists, educators, child protection agencies, reproductive counselors, and policy makers, *Diverse Pathways to Parenthood: From Narratives to Practice* is a vital new resource that will help guide practice into the future. As a contribution to the field of critical kinship studies, this book heralds new directions for the study of kinship, by revisiting as well as reimagining how we think about, research, and respond to a diversity of kinship forms. - Includes over 70 narratives representative of hundreds of interviews collected as a part of 15 research projects undertaken over the past decade - Supported by a companion website that provides further materials and information: www.diversepathways.com - Translates critical kinship studies theory into applied tools for practice in the fields of reproduction and parenthood

the surrogacy parents guide: The Surrogate Toni Halleen, 2021-11-02 “The Surrogate is a thrilling, high-stakes debut centering on a vulnerable newborn and two women who will do almost anything to claim her as their daughter. With a collection of vividly rendered characters, this twisty tale will leave you thinking about the true meaning of motherhood long after you turn the last page. I loved it!”—Patry Francis, bestselling author of *All the Children Are Home* Ruth is a no-nonsense fortysomething journalist from the Midwest, desperate for a child with her new husband, Hal. Their hope rests with Cally, a nineteen-year-old who wants to go to college—but doesn’t have the cash. The arrangement seems perfect for everyone. But within a day of the baby’s birth, Cally has a change of heart—and engineers a harrowing escape from the hospital with the newborn. When Ruth and Hal discover that Cally and their daughter are gone, a whole series of doubts and secrets is revealed, and the difference between right and wrong is no longer clear. Set in the vast, sparsely populated upper reaches of northern Minnesota in the middle of winter, *The Surrogate* follows Ruth,

Hal, Cally, through a maze of thought-provoking questions about the nature of family, love, and relationships: What would you do for your partner, when the going gets tough? How much is a pregnancy “worth”? And who, if anyone, “deserves” to be a mother? With its realistic portrayal of surrogacy and motherhood, 'The Surrogate' is a thought-provoking novel that will stay with you long after you've finished reading. Toni Halleen's writing is both literary and suspenseful, making this a must-read for fans of psychological thrillers and domestic dramas.

the surrogacy parents guide: From the Hips Rebecca Odes, Ceridwen Morris, 2007-05-22 Drawing on the experiences of hundreds of real parents and the expertise of doctors, midwives and other birth and baby pros, this indispensable resource is filled with the most accurate and up-to-date information about having and caring for a baby, including: Decisions, Decisions: A judgment-free breakdown of every major choice, including prenatal testing, natural vs. medical childbirth, circumcision, breast or bottle feeding, and work/life options The Endless No: What not to eat, take, and do when you're pregnant-get the real facts behind the prohibitions I Want My Life Back: Anxiety, regret, ambivalence, and other rarely discussed postpartum emotions Parents and partners: A look beyond the one-size-fits-all approach to family, with strategies for minimizing perfect-parent pressure and managing your real-life relationships through the changes Sorting Through the Voices: A user-friendly guide to the dueling gurus, trendy techniques, and conflicting theories that confuse new parents A forward-thinking book that includes a wide range of voices and approaches, From the Hips reflects the many ways of being pregnant and parenting without suggesting that there is one right way.

the surrogacy parents guide: Books-in-Brief: Ethics of Assisted Reproductive Medicine Sharmin Islam, Shiraz Khan, 2015-12-01 Ethics of Assisted Reproductive Medicine compares and contrasts Western and Islamic models of bioethics to make the case that the Islamic perspective (taken from the Qur'an and the Sunnah) provides a viable and clear alternative that goes beyond the dominance of the secular and its various philosophical bases, to give Revelation and spiritual understanding precedence. Human cloning, surrogacy, and IVF, are some of the more hotly contested topics. The author analyzes these rigorously and objectively, addressing the perspectives of both the secular Western and Islamic models, and fundamentally how each has chosen to framework its own understanding of the issues at hand. In discussing these issues, keeping to principles, the author charts the way out of a confused circle of opinion that is making it very hard to decide “what is best”.

the surrogacy parents guide: Research Handbook on Surrogacy and the Law Katarina Trimmings, Sharon Shakargy, Claire Achmad, 2024-03-14 This essential Research Handbook provides a multifaceted exploration of surrogacy and the law, examining a variety of critical yet under-researched perspectives including globalisation, power, gender, sexual orientation, genetics, human rights and family relations. It covers four distinct topics: surrogacy and rights, the interplay between surrogacy and different areas of the law, cross-border aspects, and regional perspectives.

the surrogacy parents guide: A Gay Couple's Journey Through Surrogacy Jerry Bigner, Michael Menichiello, 2014-06-03 A deeply personal account of the trials and tribulations of the surrogacy journey! Surrogacy's been coldly and unjustifiably called “baby buying” and “baby selling” and many states have banned it. But those insensitive terms do not tell the inspiring tale of a couple fiercely wanting to become parents. A Gay Couple's Experience with Surrogacy: Intended Fathers is the moving true story of a gay couple's decision to have their child through a surrogate mother. With humor and emotion, the author traces their intense experience from the initial decision to have a child through surrogacy on through the entire pregnancy and birth. A Gay Couple's Journey Through Surrogacy chronicles this couple's no-holds-barred account of the emotional toll, the legal matters, the financial concerns, and the ultimate fulfillment of parenting a child. A Gay Couple's Journey Through Surrogacy reveals the author's answers to these questions: why surrogacy over adoption? which type of surrogacy—traditional or gestational? what were the issues when choosing a surrogate? how much does surrogacy cost? what living expenses are included in the cost? what are the emotional and financial reasons that surrogates choose to bear another's child? what are the

pitfalls in choosing surrogacy? what are the legal issues—what to beware and what to consider An excerpt: Before I knew it, I was writing an ad of my own, and I actually posted it. David, of course, had no idea what I was up to. The ad read: “We’re a gay couple in New York that just celebrated our fourteenth anniversary and we’ve decided to extend our family. We’re looking for someone close by and even have a separate apartment available if needed.” Nice, huh? Could it be just a little bit more. . . vague? Could my ad have lacked a little more personality? Sure, have our baby and move right in while you’re doing it! Who the hell would respond to that? I wasn’t even sure after reading it myself that it made any sense. But what should I have said? What could I have said? I scrambled to find a way to delete it, but couldn’t. A Gay Couple's Journey Through Surrogacy is a touching memoir that reveals the challenges that face gay and lesbian couples who may be considering either adoption or surrogacy.

the surrogacy parents guide: The Amazing True Story of How Babies Are Made Fiona Katauskas, 2015-08-01 THE GO-TO BOOK FOR PARENTS WANTING HELP WITH THAT TALK ... SHORTLISTED FOR THE 2016 CHILDREN'S BOOK COUNCIL BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARDS It's one of the most amazing stories ever told -- and it's true! Funny, frank and embarrassment-free, THE AMAZING TRUE STORY OF HOW BABIES ARE MADE gives a fresh take on the incredible tale of where we all come from. REVIEWS: 'If you're looking for a book for children that's accessible but honest, sex positive and inclusive, THE AMAZING TRUE STORY OF HOW BABIES ARE MADE is pretty much perfect.' -- Child Magazine 'Common sense, facts, the delightful humour and illustrations will enable this book to be universally accessible and a joy to be shared. A must buy for all parents.' -- Buzzword Books 'Highly recommended ... a necessary addition to every parent library' -- ReadPlus.com.au 'It's the inclusive nature of the book as well as its light touches of humour that make it a worthy update of a perennially interesting subject' -- Sydney Morning Herald 'terrific, funny and explicit-in-a-good-way ... Destined to become a classic.' -- Weekend West

the surrogacy parents guide: *Parent To Child-The Guide* Natalie D'Annibale Bandlow, 2006-02 This guide provides parents with an opportunity to chronicle their own personal history and past experiences as well as the history and experiences of their child's life in a direct, loving, and supportive way. Don't wait - let Parent To Child : The Guide assist you in writing the legacy you want and need to leave for your children ... just in case.

the surrogacy parents guide: *You Began As a Wish* Kim Bergman, 2019-10-09 Children conceived using third-party assisted reproduction often have questions and want to know where they came from. As parents we sometimes forget that telling our kids the truth right from the start is always best! This wonderful children's book written by Dr. Kim Bergman, author of *Your Future Family: The Essential Guide to Assisted Reproduction*, and beautifully illustrated by Irit Pollack, answers those questions in simple, easy to understand language. Use this book to help your children understand all the parts that came together to make them who they are, beginning with a wish!

the surrogacy parents guide: What Makes a Baby Cory Silverberg, 2013-05-07 Geared to readers from preschool to age eight, *What Makes a Baby* is a book for every kind of family and every kind of kid. It is a twenty-first century children's picture book about conception, gestation, and birth, which reflects the reality of our modern time by being inclusive of all kinds of kids, adults, and families, regardless of how many people were involved, their orientation, gender and other identity, or family composition. Just as important, the story doesn't gender people or body parts, so most parents and families will find that it leaves room for them to educate their child without having to erase their own experience. Written by a certified sexuality educator, Cory Silverberg, and illustrated by award-winning Canadian artist Fiona Smyth, *What Makes a Baby* is as fun to look at as it is useful to read.

the surrogacy parents guide: The LGBTQ+ Empowerment Guide: Navigating Relationships, Family Dynamics, Mental Wellness, and Parenting Challenges Stephanie Butler, 2024-10-24 This comprehensive guide empowers LGBTQ+ individuals to navigate life's complexities, fostering resilience and self-discovery. From the outset, it delves into the nuances of LGBTQ+ relationships, exploring communication, intimacy, and the unique challenges faced by this community. It provides

valuable insights on navigating family dynamics, understanding the complexities of coming out, and building supportive relationships with loved ones. Mental wellness is a crucial aspect of the guide, addressing common mental health concerns and providing strategies for coping with stress, anxiety, and depression. It encourages self-care, mindfulness, and the importance of seeking professional help when needed. The guide also tackles the complexities of parenting within the LGBTQ+ community, offering practical advice on navigating legal, social, and emotional challenges. It highlights the importance of creating inclusive and affirming environments for LGBTQ+ children, and provides guidance on advocating for their rights. This indispensable resource offers invaluable support, knowledge, and empowerment to LGBTQ+ individuals, fostering a greater understanding of their experiences and equipping them with the tools to thrive in all aspects of their lives.

the surrogacy parents guide: Bringing in Finn Sara Connell, 2012-08-28 Summary: In February 2011, 61-year-old Kristine Casey delivered the greatest gift of all to her daughter, Sara Connell: Sara's son, Finnean. At that moment, Kristine--the gestational carrier of Sara and her husband Bill's child--became the oldest woman ever to give birth in Chicago. While Finnean's birth made local headlines, this book tells one modern family's remarkable surrogacy story. Connell recounts the tragedy and heartbreak of losing pregnancies; the process of opening her heart and mind to the idea of her mother carrying her child for her; and the profound bond that blossomed between mother and daughter as a result of their unique experience together. Bringing in Finn is a tale of despair, hope, forgiveness, and redemption--and the discovery that when it comes to unconditional love, there are no limits to what can be achieved.--From publisher description.

the surrogacy parents guide: Must-see Websites for Parents & Kids Lynn Van Gorp, 2007-10-15 Collects websites that are family friendly and may be useful for homework, with suggestions regarding navigation and possibly useful tools.

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